

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 1051

AN ACT

To amend chapter 160, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to extended learning opportunities.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 160, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 160.565, to read as follows:

160.565. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Extended Learning Opportunities Act".

2. For the purposes of the provisions of this section, the following terms shall mean:

(1) "Extended learning opportunity", an out-of-classroom learning experience, approved by a local school board or a charter school that provides a student with:

(a) Enrichment opportunities;

(b) Career readiness or employability skills opportunities, including internships, pre-apprenticeships, and apprenticeships; or

(c) Any other approved educational opportunity;

(2) "Student", any child attending an elementary or secondary public school or charter school in kindergarten through the twelfth grade.

3. Beginning with the 2023-24 school year, each local school board and charter school shall routinely inform students and their parents of the ability to earn credit for participating in extended learning opportunities. Public schools and charter schools may assist students and their parents in completing enrollment processes required for participating in approved extended learning opportunities.

No student or parent shall be required to obtain permission from the student's school district or charter school to enroll in an extended learning opportunity, provided that, prior to participating in any extended learning opportunity, the student and at least one parent shall sign an agreement detailing all program requirements in a form developed by the department of elementary and secondary education and approved by the state board of education.

4. An extended learning opportunity shall count as a credit toward graduation requirements and the achievement of applicable state standards for students. To receive credit, a student shall submit a written request for credit and proof of successful completion of the extended learning opportunity to a designated administrator of the school the student attends.

5. Each school district and charter school shall adopt, distribute, and implement extended learning opportunities policies that provides all of the following:

(1) An application process for accepting and approving extended learning opportunities offered for credit from outside entities;

(2) A list of entities that are eligible to submit applications to offer extended learning opportunities, including:

(a) Nonprofit organizations;

(b) Business with established locations in the state;

(c) Trade associations; and

(d) The Armed Forces of the United States, subject to applicable age requirements;

(3) A process for students or their parents to request credit;

(4) Criteria that school districts and charter schools shall use to determine whether a proposed extended learning opportunity shall be approved;

(5) Criteria that school districts and charter schools shall use to award a certificate of completion and credit for completing an extended learning opportunity, including allowing a student to demonstrate competencies through performance-based assessments and other methods independent of instructional time and credit hours.

6. An entity approved by the state board of education to offer an extended learning opportunity shall be automatically qualified to offer that extended learning opportunity for all school districts and charter schools.

7. A student who successfully completes an approved extended learning opportunity and satisfies criteria for the award of a certification of completion and credit pursuant to subdivision (5) of subsection 5 of this section shall be considered to have completed all required coursework for the particular course. In an extended learning opportunity that satisfies all required coursework for a high school course, the student shall also be considered to have satisfied the equivalent number of credits toward his or her graduation requirements.

8. Any policy or procedure adopted by the state board of education, a local school board, or a charter school for participating in an extended learning opportunity shall provide every student an equal opportunity to participate and shall satisfy established timelines and requirements for purposes of transcribing credits and state reporting.

9. The department of elementary and secondary education may promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under

the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter are nonseverable, and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2022, shall be invalid and void.